## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Rie KOJIMA et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2006 0374A

Filed March 23, 2006

INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM [Corresponding to PCT/JP2005/009163 Filed May 19, 2005]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DESICIENCY IN THE FUTURE THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

	[X]	each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;						
	[]	each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/and/or						
	0	each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.						
1a.	[X] Th	[X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:						
	within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or							
		the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action to filing of an RCE,						

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
  - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
  - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

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- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
  - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. [X] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. [X] the concise explanation (references AO and AQ) contained in the specification of the present application at page 1,
  - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. [X] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

EP 1172811 and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/24913 correspond to JP

2003-16687;

EP 1351229 and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/190447 correspond to JP

2003-341241;

U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/138669 corresponds to JP 2003-233931; and

EP 1132904 corresponds to JP 2584741.

5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Rie KOJIMA et al.

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Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 March 23, 2006

Sheet 1 of 1			INFORMA	TION DISCLOSURE STATEMEN	NTT				
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 2006_0374A	OCKET NO. SERIAL NO					
. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				APPLICANT  Dis NO MAA					
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				Rie KOJIMA et al.					
Date	Submitte	ed to PTO: March 23, 20		March 23, 2006			<u> </u>		<del></del>
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CI	ASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA	2002/0024913	2/2002	Kojima et al.					
	AB	2003/0190447	10/2003	Kojima et al.					
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	AD								
	<del> </del>		FORE	EIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	Cr	ASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLA YES	ATION NO
	AE	3-121888	5/1991	JP				Abstract	
	AF	2003-16687	1/2003	JP					
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	AS	2002-293025	10/2002	JP				Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED									

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.